

Board of Education Meeting

Liberty School Board Room

April 11, 2023 at 6:30 PM



MINUTES

Mission

We, the Saline Area Schools, will equip all students with the knowledge, technological proficiency, and personal skills necessary to succeed in an increasingly complex society. We expect that our students, staff, and the Saline Community will share in these responsibilities.

OPENING

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Heritage STAR student David Russell and President Michael McVey at 6:30 pm.

Board Members Present: Tim Austin, Susan Estep, Brad Gerbe, Lauren Gold, Jennifer Miller, Michael McVey and Jennifer Steben

CORE Team Present: Superintendent Laatsch, Assistant Superintendent Ellis, Assistant Superintendent Owsley, Director of Operations Clary, Director of Teaching & Learning Davis

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - A reminder to the community to vote YES on the proposed Operating Millage Renewal on the ballot May 2nd.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

STUDENTS - None

OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS - None

5. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC COMMENT

AGENDA

6. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support by Trustee Estep to **approve the agenda as printed.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

7. STUDENT SHOWCASE

A. STAR - Students Talking and Relating

Presenters: Students & Advisor, Barry Burnette

The Students Talking And Relating (STAR) program was started by Speech Teach Kim Munn and conceived from many different resources and ideas. It is a program designed to enhance and enrich the social and communication experiences of both typically developing peers and students with disabilities. STAR was created to mend the bridge between students wanting to play and befriend other students with disabilities, but not knowing what to say or how to approach them. Typically developing children enjoy being around their peers with disabilities, but may have questions, curiosity, and/or be afraid of offending the peer.

B. Heritage Student Leadership

Presenters: Students & Advisor, Allison Peet

Students who are involved in the Heritage Leadership club spoke about the projects they have enjoyed organizing. They speak in front of their Heritage peers one Friday a month on topics regarding student leadership. There is a student from each class who is selected to be part of the Leadership group and then they have the responsibility of leading their class in projects that the leadership team decides on. These have included toy and book drives as well as helping to organize spirit days. Heritage students collected over 1700 books for under-resourced schools for the Dean Ledford Memorial Foundation as well.

8. SCHEDULED REPORTS

A. Safety & Security

Presenters: Assistant Superintendent Curt Ellis & Team

This presentation topics included the Safety Team, Informacast, Video, Visitor/Volunteer Management, Mapping, ALICE Training, SEC Security Assessment and Collaborative Training Events. Safety Team - meets regularly reviewing emergency communications, medical and operation plans. Narcan is now available at all buildings. Informacast - is the system that is a part of our emergency notification system. It creates visual cues that compliment the auditory messages. Video - Action item on the agenda this evening to approve purchase of new cameras which would increase our cameras from 350 to over 435. Cameras will have AI capabilities and can be accessed remotely. Law enforcement will have access in emergency

situations. Visitor/Intercom/Volunteer Management - will be replacing the current Raptor system. The visitor interaction will now occur in the vestibule before entering the building via intercom. This will reduce the impact on the office assistants. Proposed purchase is also on the agenda for action this evening. Bldg Mapping - This is a county wide initiative, funded by a state grant. This creates digital mapping for all our buildings that can then be shared with law enforcement and fire in the event of an emergency. ALICE Training - sessions continue to be provided as new staff is hired. 2 sessions this year (Nov 22 and April 23) provided by Secure Educational Consultants. SEC Assessment - Conducted this fall. Key findings included the need to create more structure in the after school and evening hours given the amount of programming that goes on in SAS. A collaborative training event with various law enforcement agencies will be conducted at SHS in June. There will be opportunities for SAS staff to observe. More details to come.

9. **ACTION ITEMS**

- A. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support by Trustee Austin **to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2023, Closed Session for the purposes of (1) consider purchase or lease of real property under 8(d) and (2) consider a confidential attorney-client communication pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meeting**

Ayes - 6, Abstain - 1 **MOTION CARRIED 6-1**

Vote:

Tim Austin - Aye

Susan Estep - Aye

Brad Gerbe - Aye

Lauren Gold - Aye

Jennifer Miller - Aye

Michael McVey - Abstain (was absent from 2/28/23 mtg)

Jennifer Steben - Ayes

- B. **MOTION** made by Secretary Miller, support by Treasurer Gerbe **to approve the purchase proposal as submitted by Director of Technology, Jay Grossman for the replacement of the existing camera system, visitor management system, and entrance intercom system in the amount of \$1,211,021.27 from Sentinel Technologies (Verkada Cameras) Miller, Gerbe**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

- C. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support by Trustee Austin **to approve the proposed audio/video component package in the amount of \$109,090 from Sound Planning Communication as submitted by Director of Technology, Jay Grossman. Steben, Austin**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Finance Committee Meeting Update

Brad Gerbe, Committee Chair

Agenda focused on Bulletin 1014 which shows pieces of financial information about MI public schools revenue and expenditures per pupil in relationship to other school districts. For example instructional support we rank 59th out of 822. Other areas include General Fund Per Pupil, Programs, Needs, Adult Ed, Instructional Salaries, Teacher Salaries, Instructional Support, Administrative Cost, Maintenance Cost, etc. We put our money in the classroom and instruction which is evident by the bulletin 1014 rankings. Spring count (10% of our funding) and upcoming fall (90%). Starting to have discussions about revenue generation.

B. Policy Committee Meeting Update

Jenny Miller, Committee Chair

- PO 8510 Wellness
- PO 8390 Animals on District Property
- Policy 8390.1 Therapy Dogs (New Policy)
- 3362.01 & 4362.01 Threatening Behavior Toward Staff Members (New Policies)
Coming at the request of the SEA.

Edits on these policies were explained and reviewed and they will now move forward and be added to the April 25th agenda as action items. There is still opportunity for public comment on 4/19 at the Policy Committee mtg and again on 4/25 prior to the board taking action.

11. ADMINISTRATION / BOARD UPDATES

Superintendent Laatsch: Recognition that April is autism awareness month. Thank you to our special education staff for the work they do with our students. Congratulations to the HS being one of US News & World report top 250 STEM schools in the county (102). This is through the National STEM Honor Society. Neel Moudgal will present at the student showcase 4/25 on his recent 2023 Regeneron STS Award.

Student Representative Allison Doran: NHS hosted a successful Blood Drive on 4/10/23. Testing week at the high school. HS Choir went on a trip to Chicago.

Trustee Austin: March 31 and April 1 was the Robotics competition at Saline HS. This was a regional competition. Saline placed in the top 4.

Treasurer Gerbe: Good luck to the students testing this week.

Secretary Miller: Good luck to the students testing this week. Special acknowledgement to Laurie Dawson, coaches and adult volunteers supporting the recent Robotics competition. Saline City DEI is having a training event soon which complements the work Dr. Washington is doing. The training is based on the book “Understanding Privilege”. Next Policy Committee Mtg is April 19th at 6 pm mainly continuing conversation on Controversial Issues. Gov. Whitmer is doing work around education and in her budget is planning for PreK for all.

President McVey: Attended a planning session for a youth forum for Washtenaw County Youth. More information to come.

Vice President Steben: Attended the FSAS Superintendent’s Circle. Thank you to Mac’s Acadian Seafood Restaurant and generous FSAS donors. Thank you for the BeSMART presentation at the last meeting. Happy travels to the 8th graders leaving next week for Washington DC. Great to see trips happening again.

Trustee Estep: Attended event hosted by state officials which celebrated the recent bill that expands the language of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act protected categories to include sexual orientation and gender identity or expression as prohibited categories for discrimination. Gov. Whitmer recently signed this bill. Family attended a dinner hosted by UM’s newest provost who specifically invited faculty who had young children. Nice event focusing on families. Acknowledges March 31st was transgender visibility day.

Trustee Gold: Nice to see spring sports started. April is Earth Month.

12. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION made by Secretary Miller, support by Trustee Gold **authorize the Consent Agenda as printed:**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

- A. **Approval** of the Board of Education Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2023
- B. **Approval** of the Board Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2023
- C. **Approval of Payment** of the General Fund Accounts Payable of April 11, 2023, in the amount of \$5,295,588.86
- D. **Approval of Payment** of 2021 Bond Fund Series III Accounts Payable of April 11, 2023, in the amount of \$11,673.50
- E. **Approval of Payment** of 2023 Bond Fund Series I Accounts Payable of April 11, 2023, in the amount of \$5,000.00
- F. **Receive and File** Human Resources Report

CLOSING

13. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA

A. Teaching & Learning Update

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

STUDENTS - NONE

OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS - NONE

15. NEXT MEETING

The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on April 25, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

16. CLOSED SESSION

MOTION made by Secretary Miller, support by Treasurer Gerbe **to enter Closed Session of the Board of Education at 8:35 PM, with the intent to re-enter Open Session at approximately 9:00 PM, for the purpose of Superintendent Evaluation Section 8(a). Under Section 8(a) a simple majority vote is sufficient to enter into a closed session.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

17. MOTION made by Vice President Steben, support by Treasurer Gerbe **to re-enter Open Session of the Regular Board of Education Meeting at 9:12 PM.**

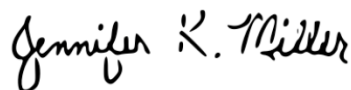
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

18. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made by Secretary Miller, support by Vice President Steben **to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of April 11, 2023, at 9:14 PM.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer K. Miller
Board Secretary

Recorded by: Betty Jahнке